

Weed out seeds of hatred — call by PM

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SHAH ALAM, Mon. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Muhammad today called on Umno members to counter accusations and propaganda by Opposition parties sowing seeds of hatred in the hearts of the people.

He criticised both Pas and DAP for capitalising

on various issues simply to win support, calling their actions a ploy to topple the Government.

Speaking to about 5,000 people, including Barisan Nasional (BN) members, supporters and Government officers at Bangunan Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah here, he said Pas was a party without any principles

and the DAP was one which politicised racial issues.

Fairness

The Prime Minister, on his first official visit to Selangor, hit out at the DAP for interpreting development projects in various States, including Malacca, as acts of suppressing the rights of a particular race.

Dr Mahathir's criticism was apparently in response to the DAP's campaign on Bukit China in Malacca.

He said that certain people had been unduly excited and got carried away in responding to

such challenges, and this could affect the solidarity within BN itself.

Dr Mahathir wanted all BN members to be wary of the DAP, which often used racial issues for its political interest.

The DAP, he said, was only trying to split the unity within BN as it knew that for as long as unity reigned in BN, it would continue to rule the country.

On Pas, he said the party was trying to force the Government to implement Islamic laws simply to break up BN.

He said Pas' accusations against BN were untrue as BN — and, in particular, Umno — had

always struggled for Islam.

"We should not be worried over such accusations as Umno will continue to struggle according to the aspirations of Islam. We will not put it aside," he said.

The Prime Minister said the Government had been and would continue to be fair to all parties — Muslims and non-Muslims.

Dr Mahathir said during the Prophet Muhammad's period, Islam was fair to non-Muslims and Islamic laws were not forced upon them.

He said the Government needed to be fair to all parties in order to ensure prosperity among the people in the country.